ABSTRACT

A METHOD TO PERFORM CENTRAL CONTROL, A LINE TERMINATOR AND AN
ELEMENT CONTROLLER REALIZING SUCH A METHOD AND A TREE-LIKE NETWORK
5   INCLUDING SUCH A LINE TERMINATOR AND AN ELEMENT CONTROLLER

The present invention concerns a method to perform central control of
in-line element (Ei) in a tree-like network by a line terminator (LT). A plurality of
network terminators (NT1, NT2, ..., NTi, ..., NTn) are coupled via one or more of such
10   in-line elements (Ei) to the line terminator (LT) by dedicated branches and by a
common branch, respectively. The method includes the steps of:

- determining by the line terminator (LT) a first plurality of bits (A)
according to an identification of a selected element (SEL-E) and a second plurality
of bits (B) according to an identification of a locally predefined function (SEL-F)
15   whereby the selected element (SEL-E) has been selected by the central control out
of the in-line elements (Ei) in order to execute its locally predefined function (SEL-F);
and

- including by the line terminator (LT) in a grant message (G) the first
plurality of bits (A) and the second plurality of bits (B);
20   - forwarding the grant message (G) by the line terminator (LT) to the in-
line elements (Ei) in order to thereby impose execution of the locally predefined
function (SEL-F) according to the second plurality of bits (B) upon the selected
element (SEL-E) according to the first plurality of bits (A).